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Washington, D.C. 20231

On November 10, 1999  
TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By: Erica L. Canonizado  
Erica L. Canonizado

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PATENT  
Attorney Docket No.: 178873/US

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

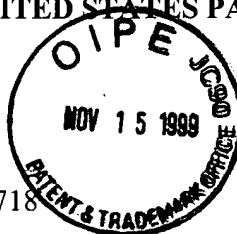
In re application of:

NAZEM et al.

Application No.: 09/393,718

Filed: September 10, 1999

For: DYNAMIC PAGE GENERATOR



Examiner: Unassigned

Art Unit: 2756

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-referenced application, please enter the following amendment.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

At page 1, line 1, please enter the following paragraph:

--This application is a continuation of Application No. 08/873,975 filed on June 12, 1997 and is incorporated herein by reference for all purposes.--

Respectfully submitted,

11/8/99  
Date

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